THE

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A REPUBLICAN PAPER.

BY RUSSEL & DAVIS, CONCORD, NEWHAMPSHIRE.

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IMPORTANT!

☞ The importance of the President's Speech, at the opening of the present extra session of Congress, will apologize for devoting most of this day's paper to give it publicity—We give it thus early to our readers through the politeness of a gentleman who favored us with a Portsmouth paper containing it—We give him our thanks.

PHILADELPHIA, MAY 17.

CONGRESS of the United States,

MONDAY, MAY 15.

A Quorum of both branches assembled.—The house of representatives was immediately organized. The hon. Jonathan Dayton, Esq. was chosen speaker, having 78 out of 80 votes—Some debate arose on the choice of a clerk; and on the ballot being taken, W. S. Condie had 41, and John Beckley 40 votes. The former being declared chosen, took his chair.—The usual introductory proceedings being over, a committee who had waited on the President, reported that he would meet the two houses tomorrow at 12 o'clock.

MAY 16. The Senate attended in the Representatives' Chamber, and at 12 o'clock the President delivered the following.

PRESIDENT's SPEECH.

Gentlemen of the Senate, and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

THE personal inconveniences to the members of the Senate and of the House of Representatives, in leaving their families and private affairs, at this season of the year, are so obvious, that I the more regret the extraordinary occasion which has rendered the convention of congress indispensible. It would have afforded me the highest satisfaction to have been able to congratulate you on a restoration of peace to the nations of Europe, whose animosities have endangered our tranquility. But we have still abundant cause of gratitude to the supreme dispenser of national blessings, for general health and promising seasons for domestic and social happiness; for the rapid progress and ample acquisitions of industry, thro' extensive territories; for civil, political & religious liberty, while other states are desolated with foreign war or convulsed with intestine divisions, the U. States present the pleasing prospect of a nation governed by mild and equal laws, generally satisfied with the possession of their rights; pai-

ther envying the advantages, nor fearing the power of other nations —ſolicitous only for the maintenance of order and juſtice, and the preſervation of liberty; increaſing daily in their attachment to a ſyſtem of government, in proportion to their experience of its utility; yielding a ready and general obedience to laws flowing from the reaſon, and reſting on the only ſolid foundation, the affections of the people.

It is with extreme regret that I ſhall be obliged, to turn your thoughts to other circumſtances, which admoniſh us, that ſome of theſe felicities may not be laſting, but if the tide of our proſperity is full, and a reflux commencing, a vigilant circumſpection becomes us, that we may meet our reverſes with fortitude, and extricate ourſelves from their conſequences, with all the ſkill we poſſeſs, and all the efforts in our power.

In giving to Congreſs information of the ſtate of the Union, and recommending to their conſideration ſuch meaſures as appear to me to be expedient or neceſſary, according to my conſtitutional duty, the cauſes and the object of the preſent extraordinary ſeſſion will be explained.

After the Preſident of the U. States received information that the French government had expreſſed ſerious diſcontents, at ſome proceedings of the government of theſe States ſaid to affect the intereſts of France, he thought it expedient to ſend to that country a new Miniſter, fully inſtructed to enter on ſuch amicable diſcuſſions, and to give ſuch candid explanations, as might happily remove the diſcontents and ſuſpicions of the French government, and vindicate the conduct of the U. States. For this purpoſe he ſelected from among his fellow citizens, a character whoſe integrity, talents, experience and ſervices, had placed him in the rank of the moſt eſteemed and reſpected in the nation. The direct object of his miſſion was expreſſed in his letter of credence to the French Republic, being "to maintain that good underſtanding, which from the commencement of the alliance, had ſubſiſted between the two nations; and to efface unfavorable impreſſions, baniſh ſuſpicion, and reſtore that cordiality, which was at once the evidence & pledge of a friendly union," and his inſtructions were to the ſame effect "faithfully to repreſent the diſpoſition of the government and people of the U. States, their diſpoſition being one, to remove jealouſies, and obviate complaint, by ſhewing that they were groundleſs, to reſtore that mutual confidence, which had been ſo unfortunately, and injuriouſly impaired, and to explain the relative intereſts of both countries, and the real ſentiments of his own."

A Miniſter thus ſpecially commiſſioned, it was expected, would have proved the inſtrument of reſtoring mutual confidence between the two Republics; the firſt ſteps of the French government correſponded with that expectation: A few days before his arrival at Paris, the French miniſter of foreign relations, informed the American miniſter, then reſident at Paris, of the formalities to be obſerved by

himself in taking leave, and by his ſucceſſor, preparatory to his reception. Theſe formalities they obſerved, and, on the 9th of December preſented officially to the miniſter of Foreign Relations, the one a copy of his letters of recall, the other a copy of his letters of credence.

Theſe were laid before the Executive Directory; two days afterwards, the Miniſter of Foreign Relations, informed the recalled American Miniſter, that the Executive Directory, had determined not to receive another Miniſter Plenipotentiary from the United States, until after the redreſs of grievances demanded of the American government, and which the French Republic had a right to expect from it. The American Miniſter immediately endeavored to aſcertain, whether by refuſing to receive him, it was intended that he ſhould retire from the territories of the French Republic; and verbal anſwers were given, that ſuch was the intention of the Directory. For his own juſtification he deſired a written anſwer; but obtained none until towards the laſt of Jan. when receiving notice in writing to quit the territories of the Republic, he proceeded to Amſterdam, where he propoſed to wait for inſtructions from this government. During his reſidence at Paris, cards of hoſpitality were refuſed him, and he was threatened with being ſubjected to the juriſdiction of the Miniſter of Police—but with becoming firmneſs, he inſiſted on the protection of the law of nations, due to him as the known miniſter of a foreign power. You will derive further information from his diſpatches, which will be laid before you.

As it is often neceſſary that nations ſhould treat, for the mutual advantage of their affairs, and eſpecially to accommodate and terminate differences, and as they can treat only by Miniſters, the right of embaſſy is well known, and eſtabliſhed by the law and uſage of nations: The refuſal on the part of France, to receive our Miniſter is then the denial of a right; but the refuſal to receive him until we have acceded to their demands, without diſcuſſion, and without inveſtigation, is to treat us, neither as allies, nor as friends, nor as a ſovereign ſtate.

With this conduct of the French government, it will be proper to take into view, the public audience given to the late Miniſter of the United States, on his taking leave of the Executive Directory. The ſpeech of the Preſident diſcloſes ſentiments more alarming than the refuſal of a Miniſter, becauſe more dangerous to our independence and union; and at the ſame time ſtudiouſly marked with indignities towards the government of the U. States. It evinces a diſpoſition to ſeparate the people of the U. States from the government; to perſuade them that they have different affections, principles and intereſts, from thoſe of their fellow citizens, whom they themſelves have choſen to manage their common concerns, and thus to produce diviſions fatal to our peace.—Such attempts ought to be repelled, with a deciſion which ſhall convince France, and the

world, that we are not a degraded people, humiliated under a colonial ſpirit of fear and ſenſe of inferiority, fitted to be the miſerable inſtruments of foreign influence, and regardleſs of national honor, character and intereſt.

I ſhould have been happy to have thrown a veil over theſe tranſactions, if it had been poſſible to conceal them; but they have paſſed on the great theatre of the world, in the face of all Europe and America, and with ſuch circumſtances of publicity and ſolemnity, that they cannot be diſguiſed, and will not ſoon be forgotten: they have inflicted a wound in the American breaſt; it is my ſincere deſire however, that it may be healed; it is my deſire, and in this I preſume I concur with you, and our conſtituents, to preſerve peace and friendſhip with all nations; and believing that neither the honor nor the intereſt of the U. States, abſolutely forbid the repetition of advances, for ſecuring theſe deſirable objects with France, I ſhall inſtitute a freſh attempt at negotiation, and ſhall not fail to promote and accelerate an accommodation, on terms compatible with the rights, duties, intereſts and honor of the nation. If we have committed errors, and theſe can be demonſtrated, we ſhall be willing to correct them;—if we have done injuries, we ſhall be willing on conviction to redreſs them, and equal meaſures of juſtice we have a right to expect from France and every other nation.

The diplomatic intercourſe, between the United States & France, being at preſent ſuſpended, the government has no means of obtaining official information from that country; nevertheleſs there is reaſon to believe, that the Executive Directory paſſed a decree on the 2d of March laſt, contravening in part the Treaty of Amity and Commerce, of 1778, injurious to our lawful commerce, and endangering the lives of our citizens.—A copy of this decree will be laid before you.

While we are endeavouring to adjuſt all our differences with France by amicable negotiation, the progreſs of the war in Europe, the depredations on our commerce—the perſonal injuries to our citizens, and the general complexion of affairs, render it my indiſpenſible duty to recommend to your conſideration effectual meaſures of defence.

The commerce of the U States has become an intereſting object of attention, whether we conſider it in relation to the wealth and finances, or the ſtrength and reſources of the nation. With a coaſt of near two thouſand miles extent, opening a wide field to fiſheries, navigation & commerce, a great portion of our citizens naturally apply their induſtry and enterprize to theſe objects; a ſerious and permanent injury to commerce would not fail to produce the moſt embarraſſing diſorders, to prevent it from being determined and deſtroyed, it is eſſential that it receive an adequate protection.

The naval eſtabliſhment will occur to every man, who conſiders the injuries committed on our commerce, the inſults offered

our citizens, and the description of the vessels by which these abuses have been practised; as the sufferings of our mercantile and seafaring citizens, cannot be ascribed to the omission of duties demandable, considering the neutral situation of our country, they are to be attributed to the hope of impunity, arising from a supposed inability on our part to afford protection. To resist the consequences of such impressions, on the minds of foreign nations, and to guard against the degradation & servility, which they must finally stamp on the American character, is an important duty of government.

A naval power next to the militia is the natural defence of the U. States. The experience of the last war would be sufficient to shew, that a moderate naval force, such as would be easily within the present abilities of the Union, would have been sufficient to have baffled many formidable transportations of troops from one place to another, which were then practised; our sea coasts from their great extent are more easily annoyed, more easily defended by a naval force than any other; with all the materials our country abounds; in skill, our naval architects and navigators are equal to any; and commanders and seamen will not be wanting.

But although the establishment of a permanent system of naval defence appears to be requisite, I am sensible it cannot be formed so speedily, and extensive as the present exigis demands: Hitherto I have thought proper to prevent the sailing of armed vessels, except on voyages to the Eastindies, where general usage, and the danger from pirates appeared to render the permission proper; yet the restriction has originated solely from a wish to prevent collusions with the powers at war, contravening the act of Congress of June 1794, and not from any doubt entertained by me of the policy or propriety of permitting our vessels to employ means of defence, while engaged in a lawful foreign commerce. It remains for Congress to prescribe such regulations, as will enable our seafaring citizens to defend themselves against violations of the law of nations, and at the same time restrain them from committing acts of hostility against the powers at war.— In addition to this voluntary provision of defence by individual citizens, it appears to me necessary, to equip the frigates and provide other vessels of inferior force, to take under convoy such merchant vessels as shall remain unarmed.

The greater part of the cruisers, whose depredations have been most injurious, have been built, and some of them partially equipped in the United States. Although an effectual remedy may be attended with difficulty, yet I have thought it my duty to present the subject generally to your consideration. If a mode can be devised by the wisdom of Congress, to prevent the resources of the United States from being converted into the means of annoying our trade, a great evil will be prevented. With the same view I think it proper to mention that some of our citizens residing abroad, have fitted out privateers, and others have voluntarily taken the command, or entered on board of them and committed spoliations on the commerce of the United States; such unnatural and iniquitous practices can be restrained only by severe punishments.

But besides a protection of our commerce on the seas, I think it highly necessary to protect it at home where it is

collected in our most important ports.— The distance of the United States from Europe, and the well known promptitude, ardor and courage of the people, in defence of their country, happily diminish the probability of invasion; nevertheless, to guard against sudden and predatory incursions, the situation of some of our principal sea ports demands your consideration; and as our country is vulnerable in other interests, besides those of its commerce, you will seriously deliberate whether the means of general defence ought not to be increased by an addition to the regular artillery and cavalry, and by arrangements for forming a provisional army.

With the same view, and as a measure which even in the time of universal peace ought not to be neglected, I recommend to your consideration a revision of the laws for organizing, arming and disciplining the militia, to render the natural and safe defence of the country efficacious.

Although it is very true, that we ought not to involve ourselves in the political system of Europe, but to keep ourselves always distinct, and separate from it if we can; yet to effect this separation, early, punctual and continual information of the current chain of events, and of the political projects in contemplation, is no less necessary than if we were directly concerned in them; it is necessary in order to the discovery of the efforts made to draw us into the vortex, in season to make preparations against them. However we may consider ourselves, the maritime and commercial powers of the world, will consider the United States of America as forming a weight, in that balance of power in Europe, which never can be forgotten or neglected; it would not only be against our interest, but it would be doing wrong to one half of Europe at least, if we should voluntarily throw our interest into either scale. It is a natural policy for a nation that studies to be neutral, to consult with other nations engaged in the same studies and pursuits, at the same time that measures might be pursued with this view, our treaties with Prussia and Sweden, one of which is expired and the other expiring, might be renewed.

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

It is particularly your province to consider the state of the public finances; and to adopt such measures respecting them, as exigencies shall be found to require to the preservation of public credit, the regular extinguishment of the public debt, and a provision of funds to defray any extraordinary expenses, will of course call for your serious attention; although the imposition of new burthens cannot be in itself agreeable, yet there is no ground to doubt that the American People will expect from you such measures, as their actual engagements, their present security, and future interests demand.

Gentlemen of the Senate and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

The present situation of our country imposes an obligation, on all the departments of government, to adopt an explicit and decided conduct. In my situation an exposition of the principles by which my administration will be governed, ought not to be omitted.

It is impossible to conceal from ourselves or the world, what has been before observed, that endeavors have been employed to foster and establish a division between the government and the people of the United States. To investigate the

cauſes which have encouraged this attempt is not neceſſary; but to repel by decided and united councils, inſinuations, ſo derogatory to the honor, and aggreſſions ſo dangerous to the conſtitution, union and even independence of the nation is an indiſpenſible duty.

It muſt not be permitted to be doubted whether the people of the U. States will ſupport the government, eſtabliſhed by their voluntary conſent, and appointed by their free choice; or whether by ſurrendering themſelves to the direction of foreign and domeſtic faction; in oppoſition to their own government, they will forfeit the honorable ſtation they have hitherto maintained.

For myſelf having never been indifferent to what concerned the intereſts of my country; devoted the beſt part of my life to obtain and ſupport its independence, and conſtantly witneſſed, the patriotiſm, fidelity and perſeverance, of my fellow citizens on the moſt trying occaſions, it is not for me to heſitate or abandon a cauſe in which my heart has been ſo long engaged. Convinced that the conduct of the government has been juſt and impartial to foreign nations, that thoſe internal regulations, which have been eſtabliſhed by law for the preſervation of peace, are in their nature proper, and that they have been fairly executed; nothing will ever be done by me to impair the national engagement, to innovate upon principles, which have been ſo deliberately and uprightly eſtabliſhed; or to ſurrender in any manner the rights of the government;—to enable me to maintain this declaration, I rely with entire confidence, under God, on the firm and enlightened ſupport of the national legiſlature, & opon the virtue and patriotiſm of my fellow citizens.

JOHN ADAMS.

NEW ✦ STAR.

CONCORD, MAY 30.

☞ *The length of the Preſident's addreſs precludes many articles intended for this paper—Of laſt mail's news, we can only Summarily ſtate: That an arrival at Boſton with Paris papers to March 26, gives this article, The official Journal in general terms mentions a recent victory obtained by the army of Italy over the Auſtrian troops commanded by the archduke Charles in perſon, who narrowly eſcaped being made a priſoner—*10,000 *Germans are ſtated, in one paper to have been killed—On the Rhine, the moſt active preparations are making to renew hoſtilities, reinforcements daily joining the armies. On the 26th March the Directory had not received official confirmation of the victory gained over Charles—Little is ſaid of Peace.—On the 24th Feb. the French attacked ſome Auſtrians, but were repulſed with much loſs.*

Capt. Tatum, at Philadelphia, from St. Thomas's, ſays that the Britiſh had taken Porterico, a Spaniſh iſland in the Weſtindies—Capt. Deane, from Gonaives, 18 *days, informs, that Gen. Touſſaint had gone to the Cape to ſtop the confiſcation of American veſſels—The Britiſh were about to attack Leogane, in Hiſpaniola, at our latest dates. Adm. Vandeput, with his ſquadron, has arrived at Halifax, from the Barney-blockade.——Commodore Barney has ſailed, it is ſaid, from Norfolk.*

BALTIMORE, MAY 10.

From Barbadoes we learn, that the Engliſh had effected a landing at Groziere, in Guadaloupe, with 15,000 troops, white, copper-coloured and blacks; and the expectation at Barbadoes was, that the iſland would fall.

Married, at Andover, Rev. Sam. Stearns, of Bedford, to Miſs Abigail French, daughter of the Rev. Mr. French, of Andover.

Melancholy Accident.

We hear from Fryeburg, that on the 18th inſt. ten men were inſtantly killed by the falling of part of the frame of a barn, which they were aſſiſting to raiſe—and that ſeven more were very dangerouſly wounded.

Two HORSES,

from Vermont.

TWO excellent HORSES, of good bone, elegance and activity, from the ſtate of Vermont, viz one by the name of

YOUNG RECOVERY,

ſired by the OLD RECOVERY owned by Dr. DYER of Connecticut—the other,

THE *ROEBUCK*,

ſired by the CUB, the moſt noted horſe in Virginia,

Will ſtand this Seaſon,

at the ſtables of Mr. PARTRIDGE in Concord, and of Lieut. WEBSTER near the meeting houſe in Saliſbury, to be let to mares. The ROEBUCK will be at Mr. Partridge's this week, Wedneſday excepted, which day he will be taken to Bachelder's mills in London, and YOUNG RECOVERY will be at Lieut. Webſter's—the next week they will be exchanged, and the Roebuck will be at Lt. Webſter's, and Young Recovery at Mr. Partridge's, except Wedneſday, on which day of each week the horſe which is deſigned for Concord will be taken to Bachelder's mills; and they will be alternately exchanged from Concord to Saliſbury each week till the 20th of July.

YOUNG RECOVERY will be let to mares at fifteen ſhillings the leap, and twenty ſeven ſhillings the ſeaſon—the ROEBUCK at twelve ſhillings the leap, and twenty four ſhillings the ſeaſon—Foals will be warranted as may be agreed.

The above horſes are both young; full blooded; and very ſure and good foal getters—They will bear examination.——Gentlemen, pleaſe to call and ſee for yourſelves.

☞ Payments may be made in produce at Caſh price, delivered at the places where the horſes are kept, by the firſt of October next. Good attendance will be given at each place, and every favor gratefully acknowledged by

S. DERBY.

May 22, 1797. VII